

**EVALUATION OF THE EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY OF  
MASER AND BIGRAM METHODS IN RETRIEVING HADITH  
DOCUMENTS**

by

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**THESIS SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT FOR THE  
DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**

**FACULTY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
AND QUANTITATIVE SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA  
SHAH ALAM**

**2004**

## **DECLARATION**

I'm hereby to declare that the work in this project is my own except for quotations and summaries which have been duly acknowledged.

**OCTOBER 2004**

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious and Most Merciful and Him Alone worthy of all praise. Alhamdulillah, thank you to Allah, this report is finally completed according to time and objectives required. It is His power that provides me with a superior knowledge throughout this study and for all that consciousness needed along this process.

I would like to express my most gratitude and thankfulness to those that had helped and inspired me in the completion of this thesis. Special thanks and appreciation is given to my supervisor, for whom I am deeply interested, PM. Dr. Zainab Abu Bakar for her reliance and shrewd guidance that have profited me very much during the preparation of this project. She also gave lots of support in this knowledge quest.

My special appreciation is due to the Dean of the Faculty of Information Technology and Quantitative Sciences, Assoc. Prof. Adnan and the Programme Head of Bachelor (Hons.) Information Technology, Puan Salwani bte Jaafar who is giving good management services throughout my degree program. My credits are also due to the computer laboratory staff of the faculty for their most generous assistance.

To my friends, Sophian Riza bin Zawawi, Bukhari bin Mokhtar and others, who are too numerous to indicate here, thanks for all the moral supports, time and

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	<b>Page</b>
<b>DECLARATION</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>LIST OF TABLES</b>	<b>vii</b>
<b>LIST OF FIGURES</b>	<b>xi</b>
<b>ABSTRACT</b>	<b>xii</b>
 <b>CHAPTER</b>	
 <b>1.0 INTRODUCTION</b>	
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Problem Description	2
1.3 Objectives	2
1.4 Contribution of The Research	3
1.5 Scope	3
1.6 Summary	4
 <b>2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW</b>	
2.1 Introduction	5
2.2 MASER	6
2.3 String Similarity Method	8
2.3.1 N-grams	9
2.3.2 Dynamic Programming Methods	13
2.4 Thesaurus	19
2.5 Stemming	20
2.6 Hadith Online	22
2.6.1 Half.Com	22
2.7 Hadith On Cd-Rom	22
2.7.1 Al-Bayan	22
2.8 Summary	23

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 BACKGROUND**

Nowadays, Information Technology or IT has enabled information to be captured, transmitted, stored, retrieved, manipulated or displayed (Altar 1996) via a computer that is linked to the Internet. Not just that, mobile computer and telephone also can retrieve the information as the technology becomes more sophisticated from time to time. Information can be in many forms such as text, image or sound. Advance in information technology has made it possible for a wide range of text-based information to be searched and retrieved online, locally or from remote hosts. More modern as well as historical or classical texts are scanned and stored in databases ready to be used for text retrieval systems. This has led to the increase in the number of new researchers into the area of information retrieval.

Information retrieval is a study on how to determine and retrieve from a corpus of stored information, the part that is relevant to particular information needs (van Rijsbergen 1979). The main function of information retrieval system is to provide the user with tools to perform searching effectively and efficiently.

Hadith has 1744 verses and it is the words of wisdom from our Prophet Muhammad s.a.w. Each verse describes the Islamic rules and prays, tauhid and the past and future stories as guidance to mankind. The hadith are collections in the form of texts captured from Sakhr (1996). Every Muslim must refer to Hadith and sunnah in whatever activity in their life. As the technology developed, an effort to accommodate Muslim needs should be done.